REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

(1) The examiner rejected claims 1-14, 25-34, 37-42, 43-46, and 49-50, 53-79, 80-112 and 194 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. The examiner states that the metes and bounds of the claims are indefinite because it is unclear whether the claims require "the polymerizable silicate solution" or whether the phrase "thereby encapsulating said droplets" merely further modifies what the media is adapted for.

Claims 1 and 30 have been canceled. Claim 43 does not include the language "thereby encapsulating said droplets." The independent claims have been amended to clarify that the emulsion "comprises media adapted to initiate reactive polymerization **upon exposure to** polymerizable silicate solution." Emphasis added. The amendment does not narrow the claims.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

- (2) The examiner also rejected claims 34, 46, 86-88, 104, 108, and 180-182 as indefinite because the claims employ "open language when defining subgenus or species in an alternative grouping." The claims have been amended in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.
- (3) The examiner rejected claim 194 as indefinite. Claim 194 has been canceled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the amended claims and withdrawal of all of the foregoing rejections.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The examiner rejected a number of claims as anticipated by several references. A number of claims have been canceled and the remaining claims have been amended. The cancellations and amendments are believed to overcome the rejections.

The examiner indicated that claims 43 and 100 (and claims depending therefrom) would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 43 and 100 were rewritten in independent form in the response to the last office action, and are presented again for reconsideration with minor amendments. Claim 1 has been canceled and claims depending from claim 1 have been amended to directly or indirectly depend from claim 100.

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 43-46, 49-50, and 100-112.

CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this response, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 maintained by Baker Hughes Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,

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